

# \$\$\$ Sources of Funding for We

## CALFED Bay Delta Program

**Agency:** CALFED-DFG, DWR, CalEPA, WRCB, NMFS, EPA, FWS, BOR, CDFA (NRCS)

**Goals of Program:** To develop a long-term comprehensive plan to restore ecosystem health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. The four primary objectives are water quality, ecosystem quality, water supply reliability, and Bay-Delta system vulnerability.

**Eligible Recipients:** Anyone in the Bay-Delta and tributary watersheds, including agencies, individuals, or non-profit organizations.

**Available Funds:** \$18.7 million available; 7 topic areas; Introduced Species is one area

**Funding Cycle:** Proposals due April 16, 1999

**Contact Person:** Rebecca Fawver (916) 654-1334

**Internet:** <http://calfed.ca.gov>

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

**Agency:** USDA (NRCS)

**Previously funded projects:** Noxious weed ID pamphlet & posters, Mojave Desert RCD Website, Noxious weed control demonstrations, Bio-control of yellow starthistle & other invasives meeting

**Goals of Program:** Voluntary conservation program to assist farmers and ranchers of private agricultural lands to install cost-effective and technically sound natural resource management systems. The Education Assistance Component of EQIP is intended to complement the technical and financial assistance components by meeting the educational needs of land care providers.

**Eligible Recipients:** Non-profit conservation, agricultural, commodity, and environmental organizations including RCD's, Cooperative Extension, private non-profits and others.

**Available Funds:** \$540,000 (Education Assistance Grants)

**Funding Cycle:** Proposals due April 2

**Contact Person:** Gary Bullard (530) 792-5651, Mark Pason (530) 792-5660 (State) or local NRCS offices & RCD's

**Internet:** <http://www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov>, <http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/funding.html>, EQIP web site currently under construction

Funding is the continual pulse keeping existing programs running and getting new projects off the ground. The big challenge is finding funding that might apply specifically to weed control/management efforts. Funding may come from several sources: State and Federal, non-profit organizations, and private foundations/industry. Additionally, funding can be separated into funds allocated towards research, on-the-ground control, or education/prevention funding. Our focus here will be on the latter two.

While there are only a handful of weed specific funding opportunities (*highlighted in article to follow*), the majority of applicable funds fall under the more general "catch all" categories of restoring ecosystem health and preserving and protecting California's environment. Such funding might address fisheries, wildlife, and waterfowl habitat preservation, watershed protection, or rangelands, wildlands, and wetlands restoration/conservation. Overall, a project proposal that emphasizes restoring the entire system and includes exotics control as a part/section within the proposal could stand a good chance of obtaining invasive weed project funding "through the back door." Ultimately, groups such as CINWCC should work towards creating/lobbying for more invasive weed management/project funding at State/Federal, Non-profit, and Private Foundations levels.

There are many specialty grants that a weed management agency or group can tap into. It may just be a matter of tailoring or matching funding to a group's needs or situation. For Example, specific funds might be applicable for groups in the following situations:

- A group battling tamarisk could tap into grants calling for resource conservation, soil erosion and water pollution.

- Individuals developing strategies

for yellow starthistle might apply for funding addressing rangeland management, livestock production, or using fire as a tool to control vegetation.

- Watershed improvement funds, aquatic habitat restoration, or improvement of public access funds could be utilized in situations where invasives such as Cape ivy (*formerly known as German ivy*) or water hyacinth are impeding water flow and obstructing waterways.

- Countless funds are available for projects conducted in particular regions of California and additional funds are accessible if endangered species are affected by weed infestations.

- Tagged funds are available for habitat destruction/environmental protection on Indian tribal grounds and Department of Defense lands.

- Yet another specialty category of funding is directed towards projects aimed at environmental education in schools and at the local/county levels.

## FUNDS DIRECTLY ALLOCATED TOWARDS WEED MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

### CALFED Bay Delta Program

CALFED is a group of state and federal agencies that came together to cooperatively develop and implement a long-term comprehensive plan that will restore the ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system. The Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) is the principal program component designed to restore and mimic ecological processes and to increase and improve aquatic and terrestrial habitats. CALFED has come

# Weed Management Programs \$\$\$

to recognize the threat non-native invasive species represent to healthy ecosystems and restoration efforts. As part of the ERP, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has accepted the responsibility of developing, implementing, managing, and coordinating a Non-native Invasive Species Program. The program objectives include: development of long-term strategy, support of prevention-oriented and control-oriented management, and research projects. Monies are available to extend existing programs, on a competitive grants basis, and to go directly towards projects. A final draft of the strategic plan is completed and work on an implementation plan is underway.

## Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

The Natural Resource Conservation Service (formerly known as the Soil Conservation Service) was established in the 1996 Farm Bill to provide a single, voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers to address significant natural resource needs and objectives. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) combines four of the USDA's former conservation programs, including Agricultural Conservation and Water Quality Incentives Programs. EQIP is a voluntary conservation program to assist farmers and ranchers of private agricultural lands to install cost-effective and technically sound natural resource management systems. EQIP is designed to address resource concerns that have been identified at the local level to conserve and improve soil, water, air, and related natural resources.

The Education Assistance Component of EQIP is intended to complement the technical and financial

assistance components by meeting the educational needs of land care providers. More specifically it is intended, to identify and share information about tools and techniques for sound resource conservation and to plan, design, implement, operate, and maintain conservation-enhancing land management systems and/or practices. The education assistance and outreach component promotes conservation education in terms of workshops, tours, and demonstrations. Local working groups-including NRCS, Farm Service Agency, RCD's and other private groups and government agencies- define the resource priorities for their areas and all educational proposals must first receive concurrence from their local group. Therefore, Weed Management Areas are encouraged to invite members of such working groups to actively participate in their weed management efforts and to cooperate on project proposals.

## National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a private, non-profit organization established by Congress in 1984. NFWF works to foster cooperative partnerships to conserve fish, wildlife, and plant resources. NFWF stimulates private funding for conservation through the use of challenge grants.

General grant criteria include: project scope (on-the ground habitat conservation projects that demonstrate a landscape/ecosystem approach), innovation (projects that encourage public involvement, and develop new strategies, or teach habitat restoration methodologies), leverage (Projects that demonstrate federal matching funds), partnerships (projects that encourage

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## National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)

### *Pulling Together Initiative*

**Previously funded projects:** Lassen County Noxious Weed Project, Fort Ord, Save the Native Fish: Afton Canyon Saltcedar control  
**Sponsors:** NFWF, FWS, BLM, FS, NPS, DOD, and BOR

**Goals of Program:** To provide a means for federal agencies to be full partners with state and local agencies, private landowners and other interested parties in developing long-term weed management projects within the scope of an integrated past management strategy.

**Eligible Recipients:** Established or start-up local weed management area (WMA) partnerships

**Available Funds:** 1.3 million (10 California projects funded, last funding cycle)

**Funding Cycle:** Proposal due in November

**Contact Person:** Eric Hammerling (415) 778-0999 (CA office) or Gary Kania (202) 857-0166

**Internet:** [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## "War on Weeds" Mini-Grants

**Agency:** California Interagency Noxious Weed Coordinating Committee (CINWCC) (1999 funds contributed by the BLM)

**Previously funded projects:** Weed prevention flier, Lassen County Yellow Starthistle SWAT Team; ID handbook & tamarisk video, East Sierra WMA; Regional weed video, Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy

**Goals of Program:** Provide funding opportunities for cooperative weed projects, research projects, and educational projects within California.

**Eligible Recipients:** Federal, State, and County Agencies, non-profit groups, private landowners (Weed Management Areas).  
\*Must be endorsed by one or more signatory agencies of CINWCC

**Available Funds:** \$10,000

**Funding Cycle:** Application deadline: July 17, Awards announced July 23

**Contact Person:** Management of mini-grant proposals has recently been turned over from Anne Knox at BLM to Steve Schoenig at CDFA/CINWCC, [sschoenig@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:sschoenig@cdfa.ca.gov) (916) 654-076. Send proposals to Steve Schoenig, CDFA, 1220 N St Room A357, Sacramento, CA 95814.

## **Additional "Back-Door" Ways of Getting Weed Management Monies**

### ***U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)***

[www.epa.gov/region09/funding](http://www.epa.gov/region09/funding)

State-Tribal-Local Wetlands Protection Grants 104 (b)(3)

Sustainable Development Challenge Grants (SDCG)

Five-Star Restoration Challenge Grants

[www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star](http://www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/restore/5star)

### ***Department of Defense (DoD)***

Strategic Environmental Research & Development Program (SERDP): Natural Resource Management Control of Non-Indigenous Invasive Species (Conservation)

<http://www.serdp.gov/funding>

### ***The Great Valley Center***

<http://www.greatvalley.org/>

LEGACI grants (Land use, Environment, Growth, Agriculture, Conservation, & Investment)

***Resource Conservation Districts,*** partnering with your local RCD

### ***California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA)***

Department of Pesticide Regulation Pest Management Grants-Demonstration

### ***U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)***

Biological Control Implementation Grant and cooperative Agreement Program (National Biological Control Institute)

Regional Integrated Pest Management Grants Program-Western Region  
\*Research & Extension staff at Land Grant Universities

Funding *continued from page 9*

multi-partner and multi-agency involvement, and Federal agency benefit (Projects with direct benefits to fish, wildlife, and other biotic resources on public lands or lands that directly affect federal agency lands).

### ***Pulling Together Initiative***

The Pulling Together Initiative (PTI) provides a means for federal agencies to be full partners with state and local agencies, private landowners and other parties interested in developing long-term weed management projects within the scope of an integrated pest management strategy. The goals of PTI are: 1) to prevent, manage, or eradicate invasive and noxious plants through a coordinated program of public/private partnerships and 2) to increase public awareness of the adverse impacts of invasive and noxious plants. The initiative provides support on a competitive basis for the formation of local weed management area (WMA) partnerships. These partnerships will be financed by funds from federal agencies together with matching funds from state, local, and private partners. Additional grant criteria include: statements of support for the long-term establishment of a WMA, a specifically defined WMA, an outline of a long-term management plan, and a project WMA steering Committee.

### ***Native Plant Conservation Initiative***

Native Plant Conservation Initiative (NPCI) provides a framework and strategy for linking resources and expertise in developing a coordinated national approach to the conservation of native plants. NPCI seeks funding for on-the-ground conservation projects that protect, enhance, and/or restore native plant communities on public and private lands. NPCI is a cooperative program created in partnership with NFWF, several federal agencies, and more than 55 non-governmental organizations.

## **"War on Weeds" Mini-Grants**

In 1996 the California Interagency Noxious Weed Coordinating Committee, (CINWCC), comprised of State and Federal agencies throughout California formed an understanding to control noxious weeds in California. An initial focus of this Interagency Group was to develop a noxious weed database. In 1997, the BLM California State Office requested and received extra funds towards this database project. Additional funds were also used as a grant pool to solicit weed project proposals and thus creating a "War on Weeds" mini-grant.

The War on Weeds mini-grant provides funding opportunities on a competitive basis for weed projects within California. A total of \$10,000 has been made available by the BLM for 1999. In order of priority, funding categories are: (1) Cooperative weed projects that involve Federal agencies, State & County agencies, non-profit groups, and private landowners (e.g. Weed Management Areas), (2) Research projects that will develop new technology or approaches useful for on-the-ground projects, and (3) Educational projects that have statewide benefits. Proposals must be submitted or endorsed by one or more agencies of the CINWCC (see page 2 for signatory agencies and representatives) to be considered. In addition, all projects must provide at least a 1:1 funding match.

As emphasized by the overwhelming response to the "War on Weeds" mini-grant, there exists a TREMENDOUS need for more funding specifically allocated towards weed management throughout the state. ❖

## THE FOUNDATION CENTER- *Private Monies*

Private/foundation monies are another potential source of funding, often overlooked simply due to the overwhelming volume of over 40,000 existing foundations/corporate funding opportunities. This daunting volume of potential private monies can easily be narrowed down by tapping into The Foundation Center resources. The Foundation Center, a non-profit, disseminates current information on foundation and corporate giving through their national collections in New York City and Washington, D.C., their field offices (San Francisco included), and their network of cooperating libraries in all 50 states. Through these library collections, grantseekers have free access to Center databases (grant and grantmaker directories) and Guides (e.g. Funding the Environment and Animal Welfare) in book or CD ROM format. Typical foundation entries include purpose and activities statements, fields of donor interest, past projects funded, funding limitations, donor information, and application information. Indexes help grantseekers target potential funders by donor name, subject field, and/or geographic area. In preparation for this article, the knowledgeable Foundation Center Staff, located at the downtown Sacramento Central Public Library, assisted the editorial staff in running subject searches for environment, restoration, and bio-diversity related funding, both specific to California and inclusive of the entire U.S., via the Center's CD Rom Database. The list of foundations in the side bar were some of the foundations targeted as potentially being interested in funding environmentally focused (restoration, bio-diversity included) projects.

**It should be emphasized that each foundation has stated requirements and preferences in terms of specific locations and project/subject areas where funding support is allocated.** Such specifications for the Foundations mentioned in this article can be obtained directly from the Foundation Center locations or will soon be on a CDFA-Integrated Pest Management, California Weed Management Area Web site (construction in progress).

## Additional Comprehensive Resources Valuable in Locating Potential Funding:

**Cost Share and Assistance Programs For Individual California Landowners and Indian Tribes** <http://ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward/funding.html> 1-800-738-TREE *Forest Stewardship Help line*

**Department of Fish and Game (DFG)** <http://www.dfg.ca.gov>  
**Sources of Funds for Stream and Watershed Restoration in California**  
*Compiled by The Habitat Restoration Group* <http://www.habitat-restoration.com/funds.htm>

**California Resource Agency Funding Matrix for Northern California Watershed Activities**  
<http://ceres.ca.gov/watershed/funding>

## *Environmentally Focused Foundations*

### **David and Lucile Packard Foundation**

[www.packfound.org](http://www.packfound.org)

(650) 948-7658 Los Altos, CA

### **Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund**

[www.goldmanfund.org](http://www.goldmanfund.org)

(415) 788-1090 San Francisco, CA

### **Marin Community Foundation**

[www.marincf.org](http://www.marincf.org)

(415) 461-3333 Larkspur, CA

### **The Pew Charitable Trusts**

[www.pewtrusts.com](http://www.pewtrusts.com)

(215) 575-9050 Philadelphia, PA

### **The San Diego Foundation**

[www.sdfoundation.org](http://www.sdfoundation.org)

(619) 235-2300 San Diego, CA

### **Weeden Foundation**

[www.weedenfdn.org](http://www.weedenfdn.org)

(212) 888-1672 New York, NY

### **The San Francisco Foundation**

[www.sff.org](http://www.sff.org)

(415) 477-2783 San Francisco, CA

### **The Rockefeller Foundation**

[www.rockfound.org](http://www.rockfound.org)

(212) 869-8500 New York, NY

### **Rockefeller Brothers Fund**

[www.rock@rbf.org](http://www.rock@rbf.org)

(212) 812-4200 New York, NY

### **The James Irvine Foundation**

[www.irvine.org](http://www.irvine.org)

(415) 777-2244 San Francisco, CA

### **Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund**

[www.omhrc.gov/fund-db/F0022.HTM](http://www.omhrc.gov/fund-db/F0022.HTM)

(415) 398-3744 San Francisco, CA

### **Columbia Foundation**

#### **(Environment Policy Center)**

[www.columbia.org](http://www.columbia.org)

(415) 986-5179 San Francisco, CA

### **Compton Foundation, Inc.**

[www.comptonfdn@igc.org](http://www.comptonfdn@igc.org)

(415) 328-0101 Menlo Park, CA

### **W. Alton Jones Foundation, Inc.**

[www.wajones.org](http://www.wajones.org)

(804) 295-2134 Charlottesville, VA

### **John D. and Cathrine T. MacArthur Foundation**

[www.macfdn.org](http://www.macfdn.org)

(312) 726-8000 Chicago, IL